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RESEARCH OUTLINE

Michigan

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

This outline describes major sources of information about families from Michigan. As you read this outline, study the *United States Research Outline* (30972), which will help you understand terminology and the contents and uses of genealogical records.

RECORDS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY™

The Family History Library™ has many of the records described in this outline. The library's major holdings of Michigan records include vital, probate, and land records for most of the state's 83 counties.

Some of the sources described in this outline list the Family History Library's book, microfilm, microfiche, and computer numbers. These are preceded by *FHL,* the abbreviation for *Family History Library.* You can use these numbers to locate materials in the library and to order microfilm and microfiche at Family History Centers™.

You can use the computer number if you have access to the Family History Library Catalog™ on computer. The "Computer Number Search" is an easy way to find a source in the catalog.

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG™

The library's records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog found at the library and at each Family History Center. The catalog is available in a computerized or microfiche version. To find a record, look in the Locality Search of the catalog for:

- The *place* where your ancestor lived, such as:

  UNITED STATES - CENSUS
  MICHIGAN - GENEALOGY
  MICHIGAN, WAYNE - PROBATE RECORDS
  MICHIGAN, WAYNE, DETROIT - HISTORY

- The *record type* you want to search, such as:

  UNITED STATES - ***CENSUS***
  MICHIGAN - ***GENEALOGY***
  MICHIGAN, WAYNE - ***PROBATE RECORDS***
  MICHIGAN, WAYNE, DETROIT - ***HISTORY***

The section headings in this outline match the names of record types used in the catalog.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

The following archives, libraries, and societies have collections or services helpful to genealogical researchers.

- State Archives of Michigan
  Department of State
  717 West Allegan
  Lansing, MI 48918-1837
  Telephone: 517-373-1408

- National Archives and Records Administration—Chicago Branch
  7358 South Pulaski Road
  Chicago, IL 60629
  Telephone: 312-581-7816

- Library of Michigan
  717 West Allegan Street
  P.O. Box 30007
  Lansing, MI 48909
  Telephone: 517-373-1300

  The Michigan Genealogical Council has published *Guide to the Michigan Genealogical & Historical Collections at the Library of Michigan and the State Archives of Michigan* (not at FHL). This book is organized by county and then by towns within the county. It lists county and church histories, atlases, censuses, newspapers, vital records, indexes to transcribed cemetery records, land records, probate records, naturalization records, church records, genealogical and historical society newsletters, and various other genealogical materials located at the two facilities. (See the "Societies" section of this outline for the address of the Michigan Genealogical Council.)

- Bentley Historical Library
  University of Michigan
  1150 Beal Avenue
  Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2113
  Telephone: 313-764-3482

US/CAN
REF AREA
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copy 19

- Burton Historical Collection
  Detroit Public Library
  5201 Woodward Avenue
  Detroit, MI 48202
  Telephone: 313-833-1480

  An inventory of this collection is:

  Sprenger, Bernice Cox. *Guide to the Manuscripts in the Burton Historical Collection.* Detroit: Detroit Public Library, 1985. (FHL book 977.4 A3sb; computer number 430123.)

A useful guide to other collections of Michigan is:

Stevens, Wystan. *Directory of Historical Collections and Societies in Michigan.* Ann Arbor: Historical Society of Michigan, 1973. (FHL book 977.4 E24s; film 924606 item 13; computer number 235911.)

The Family History Library has other guides to archives with genealogical collections. For example, the library has numerous state and local inventories compiled by the Historical Records Survey and indexes to the manuscript holdings at the Library of Michigan.

Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems are important tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive E-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Michigan in a variety of sources at local, state, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most of the information is available at no cost.

Addresses on the Internet change frequently. As of May 1997, the following sites are important gateways linking you to many more network and bulletin board sites:

- USGenWeb
  http://www.usgenweb.com/
  A cooperative effort by many volunteers to list genealogical databases, libraries, bulletin boards, and other resources available on the Internet for each county, state, and country.
- Roots-L
  http://www.rootsweb.com/roots-l/usa/
  A useful list of sites and resources. Includes a large, regularly-updated research coordination list.

To get started with computer network research regarding Michigan, contact the following:

- University of Michigan Library Gopher Service
  gopher://gopher.libofmich.lib.mi.us/
  Searches their on-line library.
- Helm's Genealogical Toolbox: Michigan
  http://smtp.tbox.com/genealogy/area/asusmi.html
  Lists genealogical societies, mailing lists, and publications.
- Cyndi Howell's List
  http://www.oz.net/~cyndihow/mi.htm
  Extensive links to other Internet sites touching on Michigan family history.

For further details about using computer networks, bulletin boards, and news groups for family history research, see the *United State Research Outline* (30972), 2nd ed., "Archives and Libraries" section.

FamilySearch®

The Family History Library and some Family History Centers have computers with FamilySearch®. FamilySearch is a collection of computer files containing several million names. FamilySearch is a good place to begin your research. Some of the records come from compiled sources; some have been automated from original sources.

Computers with FamilySearch do *not* have access to computer on-line services, networks, or bulletin boards. However, those services are available at many public libraries, college libraries, and private locations.

BIBLE RECORDS

The *Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection* contains some Bible records. The collection is described in the "Genealogy" section of this outline and is partially indexed in:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *An Index to Some of the Bibles and Family Records of the United States,* Vol. 2. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, Inc., 1984. (FHL book Ref 973 D22kk v.2; fiche 6089184; computer number 298346.)

BIOGRAPHY

The Burton Historical Collection, the Bentley Historical Library, and the Library of Michigan (see the "Archives and Libraries" section for addresses) have extensive collections of biographical works. The Family History Library has several statewide and regional biographical encyclopedias. The following emphasize the territorial period, the Detroit area, and the Northern Peninsula:

Loomis, Frances. *Michigan Biography Index.* 10 vols. Detroit: Detroit Public Library, 1946. Reprint New Haven, Conn.: Research Publications, 1973. (On 4 FHL films; computer number 105160.) An important index to Michigan historical biographies.

Michigan Biographies. Lansing, Mich.: Microform Systems, Inc., 198-? (FHL fiche 6334361; computer number 640806.) Index to biographies, newspaper articles, and obituaries of notable individuals in Michigan.

Callard, Carole, ed. *Sourcebook of Michigan Census, County Histories, and Vital Records.* Lansing, Mich.: Library of Michigan, 1986. (FHL book 977.4 A3sm; fiche 6101261; computer number 476755.) County-by-county bibliography of biographies, local histories, and abstracts or indexes to census, church, probate, cemetery, and vital records.

CEMETERIES

Copies of many tombstone inscriptions, especially for the southern part of the state, have been acquired by the Family History Library, the Library of Michigan, and the Detroit Public Library's Burton Historical Collection. The Family History Library and the Grand Rapids Public Library (60 Library Plaza NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3093) have microfilm copies of three card indexes to veterans buried in Michigan:

Grand Army of the Republic (Michigan). *Cemetery Index, 1800s–1900s.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL films 1002419–21; computer number 175963.) Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Grand Rapids (Michigan). Public Library. *Cemetery Records of Michigan Soldiers, 1770–1930.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL films 1002021–23; computer number 165530.) Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Michigan. Civil War Centennial Observance Commission. Committee on Civil War Grave Registration. *Civil War Graves Registration Index Cards, ca. 1861–1930.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1994. (On 22 FHL films; computer number 739131.)

The following is a directory of cemeteries and transcriptions available at the Library of Michigan:

Har-Al, Inc. *Michigan Cemetery Compendium.* Spring Arbor, Mich.: Har-Al, 1979. (FHL book 977.4 V37h; computer number 4999.)

A county-by-county list of cemetery record transcripts available at the Family History Library is:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Family History Library. *Index to United States Cemeteries.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1988. (FHL films 1206468–94; computer number 475648.) Film 1206477 includes Michigan and Minnesota.

The Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog lists more of these records under:

MICHIGAN - CEMETERIES
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - CEMETERIES
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY], [TOWN] - CEMETERIES

CENSUS

Federal Censuses

Population Schedules. Most federal census records are at the Family History Library, the National Archives and its branches, the Burton Historical Collection, and the Library of Michigan. The *United States Research Outline* (30972) provides more detailed information on these records.

The Family History Library has the U.S. federal censuses of Michigan from 1820 to 1920. The 1810 census was destroyed except for fragments for Detroit and Michilimackinac. The 1890 census was also destroyed, but the 1890 list of Union veterans still exists and has been indexed.

Statewide indexes are at the Family History Library for the 1820, 1830, 1840, 1850, 1860, and 1870 censuses, in book or microfiche format. The 1880 census has a partial soundex (phonetic index) on microfilm. It only lists families with children under age ten. The 1900, 1910, and 1920 censuses have complete soundex indexes on microfilm.

Countywide indexes sometimes help you locate names overlooked in statewide indexes. Dozens of countywide indexes for various years are identified in:

Callard, Carole, ed. *Sourcebook of Michigan Census, County Histories, and Vital Records.* Lansing, Mich.: Library of Michigan, 1986. (FHL book 977.4 A3sm; fiche 6101261; computer number 476755.)

Many countywide indexes are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - CENSUS.

If you need to find an enumeration district, the following sources may help:

Kirkham, E. Kay. *A Handy Guide to Record-Searching in the Larger Cities of the United States.* Logan, Utah: Everton, 1974. (FHL book 973 D27kc; fiche 6020059–60; computer number 55656.) Includes ward map and street index for Detroit in 1878.

United States. Census Office. *Census Descriptions of Geographic Subdivisions and Enumerations Districts, T1224 and T1210.* Contains the items below:

- 1830 FHL 1402857 item 1; computer number 299384
- 1840 FHL 1402857 item 2; computer number 299385
- 1850 FHL 1402858 item 1; computer number 299392
- 1860 FHL 1402858 item 2; computer number 299393
- 1870 FHL 1402859; computer number 299425
- 1880 FHL 1402861; computer number 299426
- 1900 FHL 1303023; computer number 117685
- 1910 FHL 1374005; computer number 176643
- 1920 FHL 1842709; computer number 687949

Buckway, G. Eileen. *U.S. 1910 Federal Census: Unindexed States: A Guide to Finding Census Enumeration Districts for Unindexed Cities, Towns, and Villages.* Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1992. (FHL book 973 X2bu 1910; fiche 6101340; computer number 678265.) Lists all Michigan towns (or wards) with their 1910 census enumeration district numbers and FHL film numbers.

Malmberg, Emil and Maurine. *Street Indexes to Unindexed Cities in the U.S. 1910 Federal Census.* Salt Lake City: Family History Library, 1993. (FHL book 973 X2str 1910; fiche 6104151; computer number 709519.)

United States. Bureau of the Census. *Cross Index to Selected City Streets and Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census, M1283.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives, [1984]. (51 FHL fiche 6331481; computer number 258163.) Lists street addresses for Detroit on fiche 17. Lists street addresses with corresponding enumeration districts for Grand Rapids on fiche 20.

Mortality Schedules. Mortality schedules (lists of deaths in the year before the census) exist for 1850, 1860, 1870, and 1880. The schedules are available at the National Archives, the Library of Michigan, and the Michigan State Archives. The Family History Library has the 1850 schedule and index and the 1860–1880 schedules. Mortality schedules were also taken as part of the 1884 and 1894 state censuses.

Master Indexes. Some of the indexes mentioned above are combined into one master index. The following master indexes cover several census years, states, and census types:

FamilyFinder™ Index and Viewer: Version 3.0. Orem, Ut: Brøderbund Software, 1995. (FHL compact disc no. 9 1995 index; computer number 775509. Not available at Family History Centers.) A master index to the Michigan 1810 to 1850 federal censuses, 1850 mortality schedule, 1827 and 1837 territorial censuses, and miscellaneous small lists of petitioners and residents from 1769-1836.

The FamilyFinder Index includes the following indexes by Ronald Vern Jackson:

Jackson, Ronald Vern. *AIS Microfiche Indexes of U.S. Census and Other Records.* Bountiful, Ut: Accelerated Indexing Systems International, 1984. (No FHL fiche number but available at many Family History Centers.) Several Michigan small lists of petitioners and residents 1769–1819 are combined on Search 1. Territorial and federal censuses are on Search 2 (1820 and 1827) and Search 3 (1830 and 1837). Other Michigan federal censuses are on Searches 4, 7, and 8. Michigan 1840, 1850, and 1880 mortality indexes are on other searches.

Territorial and State Censuses

More than 20 early territorial censuses were taken in various areas of Michigan. Historical background and the names found in the early lists are given in:

Russell, Donna Valley. *Michigan Censuses, 1710–1830.* Detroit: Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, 1982. (FHL book 977.4 X2r; computer number 169203.)

Other territorial and state enumerations were made in the years 1827, 1834, 1837, 1845, 1854, 1864, 1874, 1884, 1894, and 1904. Indexes for the 1827, 1837, and 1845 territorial and state censuses have been published. The original schedules are housed in many different local repositories. The schedules of many counties are missing. The most complete collections are for the 1884 and 1894 censuses, which include detailed information on each family member.

Microfilm numbers of Michigan territorial or state censuses are listed in Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under MICHIGAN - CENSUS - [YEAR]. They are also found in:

Buckway, G. Eileen. *U.S. State and Special Census Register.* Salt Lake City: Family History Library, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1992. (FHL book 973 X2be; fiche 6104851-52; computer number 594855.)

More detailed information on Michigan census records is in "Michigan Census Schedules and Records," printed in the Summer-Fall 1978 issue of *Family Trails* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

CHURCH RECORDS

Before 1900 the largest religious groups in Michigan were the Methodist, Baptist, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic churches. Information about early churches, ministers, and circuits is in published histories of some Michigan churches.

The availability of Michigan church records is described in the Summer 1973 issue of *Family Trails* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline). Other inventories of the church archives of several denominations, such as the Protestant Episcopal and Evangelical, have been published and are at the Family History Library.

The Michigan Historical Records Survey, WPA, completed a series of denominational record lists called *Inventory of the Church Archives of Michigan.* Check for these records in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under MICHIGAN - CHURCH RECORDS - INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS.

The library also has copies of a few small collections of original Michigan church records. Some original manuscripts and published abstracts are also in the Bentley Historical Collection at the University of Michigan (see the "Archives and Libraries" section for the address).

Many denominations have gathered their records into central repositories. You can write to the following addresses to learn where their records are located:

Baptist

Kalamazoo College
Upjohn Library
1200 Academy St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
Telephone: 616-337-7153
Fax: 616-337-7143

Lutheran

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA Archives)
8765 West Higgins Road
Chicago, IL 60631-4198
Telephone: 312-380-2818
Fax: 312-380-2977

The records of Evangelical Lutheran churches in the United States that have been disbanded are located at the ELCA Archives in Chicago. If a church is still active, they will be able to help you locate their records.

The ELCA Archives has records of many congregations and those on microfilm can be borrowed for a small fee. A list of church records in its collection is given in:

ALC Archives. *ALC Congregations on Microfilm.* Dubuque, Iowa: The Archives, [197-?]. (FHL fiche 6330690–93; computer number 170040.) Arranged by state and city of congregation. Fiche 6330690 includes Michigan. The ALC Archives are now part of the ELCA Archives.

Methodist

Shipman Library
Adrian College
110 South Madison Street
Adrian, MI 49221
Telephone: 517-265-5161
Fax: 517-264-3331

Roman Catholic

Diocese of Marquette
444 South Fourth Street
P.O. Box 550
Marquette, MI 49855
Telephone: 906-225-1141
Fax: 906-225-0437

Archdiocese of Detroit
1234 Washington Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48226
Telephone: 313-237-5800
Fax: 313-237-4642

Diocese of Saginaw
5800 Weiss St.
Saginaw, MI 48603-2799
Telephone: 517-799-7910
Fax: 517-797-6670

Diocese of Grand Rapids
660 Burton St. S.E.
Grand Rapids. MI 49507
Telephone: 616-243-0491
Fax: 616-243-4910

Diocese of Lansing
300 West Ottawa
Lansing, MI 48933
Telephone: 517-342-2440
Fax: 517-343-2515

For information concerning Catholic records, see:

Inventory of the Church Archives of Michigan, The Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Detroit. Detroit: Michigan Historical Records Survey, 1941. (FHL book 977.4 K2hca; film 962282 item 1; fiche 6051290; computer number 267141.)

COURT RECORDS

When Wayne County was organized in 1796 as part of the Northwest Territory, the county clerk handled all legal matters in the area. After the Michigan Territory was established in 1805, the Supreme Court kept probate and other files. Since statehood (1837), several Michigan courts have kept records of genealogical value:

Circuit courts serve from one to four counties and have exclusive jurisdiction over felony cases, chancery, and major civil, domestic, and equity matters. They have appellate jurisdiction over district courts. They also handled naturalizations prior to 1906.

District courts operate on a county, district, or municipal level with jurisdiction over misdemeanors, ordinance violations, and minor civil matters.

Municipal courts have citywide jurisdiction in minor criminal and civil cases. Some also hear small claims cases.

Supreme Court is the final court of appeal. The Family History Library has copies of the following:

Michigan. Supreme Court. *Court Records, 1819–1857: Index to Cases, 1805-1857.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1974. (FHL films 955816–29; computer number 187428.) An index to supreme court case files for 1805–1857 and court journals for 1819 to 1857.

United States. Territorial Court (Michigan). *Records of the Territorial Court, Michigan, 1816–1836.* M1111. Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1988. (FHL films 1601888–96; computer number 467373.) Records of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Michigan acting as Circuit and District Court of the United States of America.

County courts were abolished in 1833 and left few records of genealogical value.

You can obtain copies of court records from the clerk's office in the appropriate court. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of a few Michigan court records, notably some circuit court records for some of the northern counties.

DIRECTORIES

Directories of heads of households have been published for major cities in Michigan. For example, the Family History Library has the following:

- Detroit
  1856-1935 . . . . on 72 FHL films; 46 microfiche; computer number 658463.

  Detroit directories from 1887 through 1915 may list the name and death date of individuals who died during the preceding year.
- Grand Rapids
  1856-1936 . . . . on 36 FHL films; 4 microfiche; computer number 659660.

The best collection of directories is at the Library of Michigan. A description of their availability and use is in the Summer 1975 issue of *Family Trails* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

The "Emigration and Immigration" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972) lists several important sources for finding information about immigrants. These nationwide sources include many references to people who settled in Michigan. The *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111) introduces the principles, search strategies, and additional record types you can use to identify an immigrant ancestor's hometown.

Pre-statehood settlers of Michigan generally came from New York, Ohio, the New England states, and Ontario. Many immigrants from Germany and the Netherlands arrived by 1850. Later arrivals were Scandinavian, Irish, Cornish, Italian, and Polish. A helpful source on Michigan immigrants is:

Vander Hill, C. Warren. *Settling the Great Lakes Frontier: Immigration to Michigan, 1837–1924.* Lansing: Michigan Historical Commission, 1970. (FHL book 977.4 W2v; computer number 250131.)

Major ports of entry to Michigan have been New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Quebec. The Family History Library and the National Archives have passenger lists for American ports for the years 1820 to 1920 and indexes for 1820 to 1943. The library has lists for Quebec for 1865 to 1900. More detailed information on these sources is in the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

The United States made records of the individuals who came into Michigan from Canada. The library has a film copy of these records in:

United States Immigration and Naturalization Services. *Detroit District Manifest Records of Aliens Arriving from Foreign Contiguous Territory: Arrivals at Detroit, Michigan, 1906–1954*. Washington, D.C.: Immigration and Naturalization Services, [195?]. (On 117 FHL films; computer number 432703.)

There are also *Passenger and Alien Crew Lists of Vessels Arriving at the Port of Detroit, MI, 1946–1957*, available at the National Archives (National Archives on 23 rolls; series M1479).

Records of ethnic groups are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under MICHIGAN - MINORITIES. A few sources for the Chippewa, Potawatomi, and Ottawa Indians in Michigan are listed under MICHIGAN - NATIVE RACES.

GAZETTEERS

Several helpful gazetteers of Michigan have been published. Three of the better sources for finding place names are:

Blois, John T. *Gazetteer of the State of Michigan*. Detroit: S.L. Rood, 1939. (FHL film 897469 item 1; fiche 6051130; computer number 262863.)

Romig, Walter. *Michigan Place Names*. Grosse Pointe, Mich.: N.p., 197-. (FHL book 977.4 E2r; film 982202 item 1; computer number 266224.)

Michigan Gazetteer. Wilmington, Del.: American Historical Publications, 1991. (FHL book 977.4 E5mg; computer number 512928.) A historical gazetteer which gives detailed information about events that have occurred and the individuals who participated.

GENEALOGY

Most archives, historical societies, and genealogical societies have special collections and indexes of genealogical value.

Centennial Celebrations Collections. Beginning in 1976, Michigan issued certificates to applicants who could prove direct descent from an ancestor living in Michigan a century earlier. The records are in:

Centennial Family Certificate Application Files: A Project of the Michigan Genealogical Council. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1983. (On 81 FHL films; computer number 39377. Not available at Family History Centers.) Michigan settlers by 1876 and their descendants. The questionnaires, applications, vital statistics, and documentation are alphabetical by ancestor.

Centennial Family Certificate Applications: A Project of the Michigan Genealogical Council. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1983. (On 12 FHL films; computer number 39376. Not available at Family History Centers.) Same as above but questionnaires only. Questionnaires show name and address of applicant and lineage chart. Alphabetical by ancestor.

Michigan Centennial File Index. Lansing, Mich: Microform System, Inc., [198-?]. (FHL fiche 6334362–64; computer number 625201. Not available at Family History Centers.) Indexes to the previous two collections by ancestor, applicant, and certificate number.

Michigan Sesquicentennial Pioneer Files and Indexes, ca. 1986–1988. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1994. (On 129 FHL films; computer number 625206. Not available at Family History Centers.) Michigan settlers prior to 1837 and their descendants. Four indexes by applicants, pioneers, certificate number, and participants who did not qualify. Applications, certificates, and indexes from the Library of Michigan and State Archives of Michigan.

The originals are at the Library of Michigan.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Collection. The DAR has collected transcripts of Bible records, cemetery records, church records, marriages, deaths, obituaries, and wills:

Daughters of the American Revolution (Michigan). *Genealogical Records*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (On 9 FHL films; computer number 311093.) Includes index.

Daughters of the American Revolution (Michigan). *Genealogical Collection*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1971. (On 40 FHL films; computer number 453517.) Many volumes are individually indexed. Most are arranged by county or town name.

These volumes are also available at the DAR Library, in the Burton Historical Collection, and at the Library of Michigan.

Pioneer Records. For families in early Michigan see:

Michigan Pioneer Records, 1800–1900. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973, 1974, 1976. (On 13 FHL films; computer number 363851.) Birth, marriage, death, burial, and previous residence information. Indexed.

Michigan. State Library. *Pioneer Family Collection*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (FHL films 927650–67; computer number 279789.) Includes folders (alphabetically arranged) of correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other materials for various surnames. The collection is also at the Library of Michigan.

Michigan. State Library. *Link Collection*. Lansing, Mich.: State Library, 1973. (On 12 FHL films; computer number 279784.) A collection (alphabetically arranged) of research notebooks, folders, and newspaper clippings. The collection is also at the Library of Michigan.

Surname Indexes. For alphabetical surname indexes see:

Western Michigan Genealogical Society (Grand Rapids, Michigan). *Surname Index, 1600s–1900s*. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL film 1002371–72; computer number 313078.) A card index containing genealogical information from lineage charts, family Bibles, and other sources. The index is also at the Grand Rapids Public Library.

DeZeeuw, Donald J., ed. *The Michigan Surname Index*. Lansing, Mich.: Michigan Genealogical Council, 1984. (FHL book 977.4 D22m; computer number 298388.) Contains information on more than 100,000 Michigan ancestors. Lists the names and often the birth, marriage, and death dates, localities, and spouse or other relatives.

HISTORY

The following important events in the history of Michigan affected political jurisdictions, record keeping, and family movements.

1668 Sault Ste. Marie, the oldest community in Michigan, was founded by the French. Detroit was founded in 1701.

1763 The British took possession of the area but discouraged settlers.

1787 Michigan became part of the U.S. Northwest Territory, but the British still controlled Detroit and Mackinac.

1796 The British withdrew from their remaining posts, including Detroit.

1800 The area became part of the Indiana Territory.

1805 Congress created Michigan Territory.

1818–1832 Settlement was encouraged by improvements in transportation, including the establishment of steamship operation on the Great Lakes from Buffalo to Detroit in 1818, and the completion of the Erie Canal to Buffalo in 1825. The Chicago Road linking Detroit to Chicago was completed in 1832.

1835 As a result of the Toledo War with Ohio, Michigan lost land along its southern border to Ohio and gained the Upper Peninsula.

1837 Michigan became a state.

1861–1865 90,000 men served the Union in the Civil War. Of these, 14,000 died in the war.

1900 All of Michigan's 83 counties had been settled by 1900.

Local histories for most counties in Michigan are available at the Family History Library and other major libraries with Michigan collections. These will help you understand the settlement and growth of each area. They often include biographical information about residents. The following are other useful guides:

Callard, Carole, ed. *Sourcebook of Michigan Census, County Histories, and Vital Records*. Lansing, Mich.: Library of Michigan, 1986. (FHL book 977.4 A3sm; fiche 6101261; computer number 476755.)

Welch, Richard Warren. *County Evolution in Michigan, 1790–1897*. Lansing: Department of Education, 1972. (FHL book 977.4 A1 no. 7; film 896902 item 3; computer number 266456.)

Lanman, Charles. *The Red Book of Michigan: A Civil, Military, and Biographical History*. Detroit: E. B. Smith, 1871. (FHL book 977.4 H2Lr; film 1425611 item 1; computer number 265836.)

LAND AND PROPERTY

Land Grants by France and England

The earliest land records in Michigan are of private land claims granted by France and England. Lists of early voters, petitioners, taxpayers, and landowners are in:

United States. Congress. *American State Papers*. Salt Lake City; La Crosse, Wis.: Genealogical Society of Utah: Brookhaven Press, 1959, 1975, 1977. (On 29 FHL films, computer number 277508. Some of these films are not available at Family History Centers.)

The papers are also in:

United States. Department of State. *Territorial Papers of the United States*. 26 vols. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1934–1962. (FHL films 929376–91; computer number 210409.) Michigan is on films 929382–83.

You can locate these published volumes in the National Archives and the Family History Library. Claims for the years 1790 to 1837 have been transcribed and indexed in:

McMullin, Phillip W. *Grassroots of America.* Salt Lake City: Gendex Corp., 1972. (FHL book 973 R2ag index; fiche 6051323; computer number 271603.)

Land Office Records

When the U.S. acquired the area, unclaimed land became the public domain. Land was surveyed and distributed through land offices. The first office opened in Detroit in 1818. The records of all of the land offices are at the National Archives, at the Michigan State Archives, and on microfilm at the Library of Michigan.

The Michigan State Archives also has plat and tract books, landownership maps, and numerous tax rolls. The Bentley Historical Library has copies of the plat and tract books. Original land entry case files are at the National Archives. Land patents are at the Bureau of Land Management (350 S. Pickett Street, Alexandria, VA 22304).

The Family History Library has on compact disc:

United States. Department of the Interior. Bureau of Land Management. *Michigan Cash and Homestead Entries, Cadastral Survey Plats.* Version 7.3. Springfield, Va.: BLM Eastern States, 1994. (FHL compact disc no. 22; computer number 735498. Not available at Family History Centers.) These records are patents issued by the federal government. Researchers can search for land title information through any one of six categories—land description, patentee name, patent authority, land office, certificate number, or county.

County Records

After land was transferred to private ownership, subsequent transactions were recorded in each county. The register of deeds has records dating from the creation of the county and grantor (seller) and grantee (buyer) indexes.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of warranty deeds and some mortgage records for over 50 counties, dating from county creation to about 1900. For example, from Wayne County, the library has 220 microfilms of deeds and indexes for 1700 to 1918. Look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - LAND AND PROPERTY to see which records are available.

MAPS

The best collections of Michigan maps are at the Michigan State Archives and at the Burton Historical Collection. The Family History Library has a small collection of maps and atlases, dating from 1855 to the present. The library's files include ward maps for the city of Detroit.

To locate Michigan maps and atlases, use:

Miles, William. *Michigan Atlases and Plat Books: A Checklist, 1872–1973.* Lansing: State Library Service, 1975. (FHL book 977.4 E3m; fiche 6051141; computer number 265875.)

To see changes in county boundaries, use:

Long, John H., ed. *Historical Atlas and Chronology of County Boundaries, 1788-1980.* Scale: 1:633,600. Vol. 1-5. Boston, Mass.: G.K. Hall, 1984. (FHL 973 E7hL v. 1-5; fiche 6051426-30; computer number 304297.) Maps show when and where each county changed boundaries. Maps for Michigan are in Vol. 3 (fiche 6051428).

MILITARY RECORDS

Many military records are at the Family History Library, the National Archives, and other federal and state archives. The *U.S. Military Records Research Outline* (34118) provides more information on federal military records and search strategies. The following sources for Michigan are also helpful:

Revolutionary War (1775 to 1783) to War of 1812 (1812 to 1814)

Thousands of veterans settled in Michigan. Genealogical and biographical data is in published militia rolls, pension papers, and gravestone records. An example is:

Miller, Alice Turner, comp. *Soldiers of the War of 1812, Who Died in Michigan.* Ithaca, Mich.: A.T. Miller, 1962. (FHL book 977.4 M23m; film 844961 item 3; computer number 265879.) A supplement is also available.

Indian Wars to Mexican War (1832 to 1848)

A few records for the Black Hawk War (1832), Toledo War (1835), and Patriot War (1838–39) are at the Michigan State Archives. The Family History Library has:

United States. Adjutant General's Office. *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served from the State of Michigan for the Patriot War, 1838–1839.* Washington, D.C.: The National Archives, 1965. (FHL film 882795; computer number 278551.)

Michigan. Adjutant General's Office. *Michigan Volunteers Descriptive Roll, First Regiment, 1847–1848.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (FHL film 915345; computer number 144829.) A descriptive muster roll of Mexican War volunteers.

Civil War (1861 to 1865)

An index to service and pension records is on film at the Family History Library and at the National Archives. The service and pension files have not been filmed and are only available at the National Archives.

Brief service records of Michigan soldiers have been published in:

Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War, 1861–1865. 46 vols. Kalamazoo, Mich.: Ihling Bros. & Everard, 1905. (FHL book 977.4 M2r; on 4 films; computer number 366793.) For an index of names listed in these volumes use:

Alphabetical General Index to Public Library Sets of 85,271 Names of Michigan Soldiers and Sailors Individual Records. Lansing, Mich.: Michigan Secretary of State, 1915. (FHL book 977.4 M22a; film 915948; computer number 309785.)

The Family History Library has:

Michigan. Adjutant General's Office. *Records of Michigan Volunteers Mustered into the Service of the United States, 1861–1866.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (On 7 FHL films; computer number 391580.) Includes index. Lists name, rank, enlistment date and place, and residence. The records are also at the Michigan State Archives.

The library also has 50 volumes of:

Michigan. Adjutant General's Office. *Michigan Volunteers Descriptive Rolls, 1861–1866; Index to Michigan Volunteers, 1861–1865.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1972. (On 16 FHL films; computer number 377639.) Indexes are on films 915346–47. Lists name, rank, enlistment date and place, physical description, and service record. Lists death date and place for some individuals.

A register of commissioned officers is given in:

Robertson, John. *Michigan in the War,* Revised. Lansing, Mich.: W.S. George, 1882. (FHL book 977.4 M25a; film 1015816 item 1 & 982366 item 3; computer number 266167; 1880 edition on film 1294017; computer number 50772.) Alphabetical lists show officer's residence, enlistment date, regiment, promotions, and date mustered out.

After the Civil War, the Grand Army of the Republic Union veterans organization was formed. For 50 volumes of their records, see:

Grand Army of the Republic. Department of Michigan. *Records of Posts and Index, 1876–1945.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973, 1991. (On 90 FHL films; computer number 277155.) Indexed. Shows name, age, birth state, residence, occupation, service dates, and discharge cause.

Spanish American War (1898)

Muster out rolls of Michigan volunteers are in:

Michigan. Adjutant General's Office. *Michigan Volunteers, Spanish American War, 1898–1899.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (On 5 FHL films; computer number 391576.) Indexed. Lists name, enlistment date, by whom enlisted, and discharge date.

World War I (1914 to 1918)

World War I Card Index for Michigan. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL film 1001930–66; computer number 197371.) Often has places of residence and parents' names. Appears to be drafted persons only.

World War I draft registration cards for men age 18 to 45 may list address, birth date, birthplace, race, nationality, citizenship, and next of kin. Not all registrants served in the war. For Michigan's registration cards, see:

United States. Selective Service System. *Michigan, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, M1509.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives, 1987–1988. (On 217 FHL films; computer number 756747.)

To find an individual's registration card, it helps to know his name and residence at the time of registration. The cards are arranged by county, then by draft board within the county, and then alphabetically by surname within each draft board.

Most counties had only one board; large cities had several. A map showing the boundaries of individual draft boards is available for most large cities. Finding an ancestor's street address in a city directory will help you in using the draft board map. There is an alphabetical list of cities that are on the map. For a copy of this map see:

United States. Selective Service System. *List of World War One Draft Board Maps.* Washington, D.C.: National Archives. (FHL film 1498803; computer number 702779.)

Additional Records

Many other kinds of military records—including state militia, national guard, and old soldier home records—can be found by looking under MICHIGAN - MILITARY RECORDS in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog.

NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

The circuit and district courts had authority to naturalize foreigners, but the actual documents are in the custody of each county clerk.

The Family History Library has the following major collections of naturalization records for Michigan:

Michigan. Circuit Court. (Wayne County). *Declarations of Intention, 1874–1936.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993. (On 138 FHL films; computer number 715092.) Includes indexes.

Michigan. Circuit Court. (Wayne County). *Naturalization Records, 1815–1928.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976, 1977. (On 89 FHL films; computer number 161273.) Includes indexes.

Michigan. Circuit Court. (Wayne County). *Naturalization Records, 1837–1921.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1992. (On 161 FHL films; computer number 679946.) Includes indexes. Includes some Superior Court records.

United States. District Court. (Michigan: Eastern District). *Declarations of Intentions, 1911–1930.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1986. (On 54 FHL films; computer number 441551.)

United States. District Court. (Michigan: Eastern District). *Naturalization Records, 1913–1928.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1986. (On 129 FHL films; computer number 441583.)

United States. District Court. (Michigan: Western District: Northern Division). *Naturalization Records, 1887–1915.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1986. (FHL film 1255891–92; computer number 441495.)

United States. District Court. (Michigan: Western District: Southern Division). *Naturalization Records, 1907–1930.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1986. (FHL film 1255888–91; computer number 441480.)

For declarations and petitions filed after 1906, contact the National Archives and Records Administration—Chicago Branch (see the "Archives and Libraries" section for the address) or the nearest office of the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service.

The Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog lists additional records like these under:

MICHIGAN - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - NATURALIZATION AND CITIZENSHIP

NEWSPAPERS

A newspaper pool has been organized by the Library of Michigan, Detroit Public Library, and other institutions to gather and microfilm all known Michigan newspapers. These microfilms are available to public and university libraries that participate in interlibrary loan. A description of the state's newspapers is in the Fall-Winter, 1971–72, issue of *Family Trails* (see the "Periodicals" section of this outline).

The Family History Library has no Michigan newspapers, but does have:

Link, Muriel. *Obituaries Index, 1933–1948.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1976. (FHL films 1002031–44; computer number 197318.) This index contains clippings from various Michigan newspapers.

The Historical Records Survey (Michigan). *Vital Records from the Detroit Free Press 1831–1868.* Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1973. (FHL films 927477–79; computer number 175637.)

PERIODICALS

Many family history periodicals publish local records of genealogical value. These may include genealogies; information about local records and archives; queries; census indexes; and transcripts of family Bibles, church records, court records, cemetery records, land records, obituaries, and wills.

The major genealogical periodicals for Michigan are:

Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine. 1937–. Published by the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, 5201 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202. (FHL 977.4 C4de; computer number 205254.) Volumes 1 through 30 are indexed.

Family Trails. 1967–. Published by the State Department of Education, Michigan State Library, Box 30007, Lansing, MI 48909. (FHL 977.4 D25f; computer number 64290.)

Michigana. 1955–. Published by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society, Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. (FHL 977.4 B2m; computer number 203546.) Some volumes are indexed.

Michigan Heritage. 1959–73. Formerly published by the Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society, Kalamazoo, MI. (FHL 977.4 B2mh; computer number 210578.)

Michigan Historical Collections. 1877–1929. Formerly published by the Michigan Historical Commission, Lansing, MI. (FHL book 977.4 H2m; films 844864–84; fiche 6051338; computer number 261621.) Volumes 1 through 30 are indexed.

Indexes. Many of the periodicals listed above have annual indexes in the final issue for the year. For *nationwide* indexes to some of these and other family history periodicals see:

Periodical Source Index (PERSI). Ft. Wayne, Ind.: Allen County Public Library Foundation, 1987-. (FHL book 973 D25per; fiche 6016863 [set of 40](1847-1985); fiche 6016864 [set of 15](1986-1990); computer number 658308.) Indexes thousands of family history periodicals. Annual indexes have been published yearly since 1986. For further details see the *PERiodical Source Index Resource Guide* (34119).

Some Michigan periodicals are also indexed in:

Quigley, Maud. *Index to Family Names in Genealogical Periodicals.* Grand Rapids: Western Michigan Genealogical Society, 1981. (FHL book 977.4 A1 no. 307; computer number 158798.)

Another useful source by the same author is:

Quigley, Maud. *Index to Michigan Research Found in Genealogical Periodicals.* Grand Rapids: Western Michigan Genealogical Society, 1979. (FHL book 977.4 A1 no. 67; computer number 16344.)

For more family history periodicals, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

MICHIGAN - PERIODICALS
MICHIGAN - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
MICHIGAN - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - PERIODICALS
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS
MICHIGAN, [COUNTY] - SOCIETIES - PERIODICALS

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate and estate matters in Michigan were recorded by the clerk of the probate court in each county. Probate records were kept beginning in 1817, except in Wayne County, which began keeping probate records in 1797.

These records include wills, guardianships, administrator bonds, estate inventories, and other records. They are usually indexed. You can obtain them by writing or visiting the county courthouse.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of probate files from most Michigan counties up to the year 1900, and some indexes or calendars to 1970. For example, the probate estate packets and indexes from Wayne County cover the years 1797 to 1901 and are available on 648 microfilms.

SOCIETIES

State genealogical and historical societies may have records and services to help you with your research. The following are important genealogical societies in Michigan are:

- Detroit Society for Genealogical Research (DSGR)
  C/O Burton Historical Collection
  5201 Woodward Avenue
  Detroit, MI 48202
- Michigan Genealogical Council
  P.O. Box 80953
  Lansing, MI 48908-0953

  The Michigan Genealogical Council acts as a coordinating body for genealogical societies in 83 counties.

Many counties also have local historical and genealogical societies. You can find local society addresses by using directories cited in the "Societies" section of the *United States Research Outline* (30972).

VITAL RECORDS

County Records of Births and Deaths

County registration of births and deaths began in 1867 and was generally complied with by 1915. You can obtain copies of a county record by writing to the county clerk. You can also obtain records of delayed registrations of births for many counties.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of these records for most counties. The library's holdings often date to 1913 or later, with indexes to the 1970s. The library has the unindexed birth and death records from Wayne County for 1867 to 1917. They do not include records from the city of Detroit.

Detroit records for births since 1893 and deaths since 1897 may be obtained from:

Detroit Health Department
1151 Taylor Street
Detroit, MI 48202
Telephone: 313-876-4133

State Records of Births and Deaths

The state of Michigan has copies of the counties' vital statistics records. You can write to:

Office of the State Registrar & Center for Health
Michigan Department of Public Health
3423 North Logan Street
P.O. Box 30035
Lansing, MI 48909
Telephone: 517-335-8000; 517-335-8666;
517-335-8655

The current fees for obtaining copies of the state's records are listed in:

Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Divorces. Hyattsville, Md.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, March 1993.

Copies of this booklet are at the Family History Library and the Family History Centers. You can also write to the Michigan Department of Public Health (address above) for current information.

Statewide indexes to births from 1867 to 1915 and deaths from 1867 to 1914 are at the Library of Michigan. Countywide indexes are listed in:

Callard, Carole, ed. *Sourcebook of Michigan Census, County Histories, and Vital Records.* Lansing, Mich.: Library of Michigan, 1986. (FHL book 977.4 A3sm; fiche 6101261; computer number 476755.)

Marriage and Divorce Records

An 1805 law required registration of marriages with the clerk of the local district court. Most counties kept marriage records from the date the county was created. You can obtain copies from the county clerk's office.

An 1867 law required the counties to send copies of the records to the Office of the State Registrar (see address above). Licenses were not required until 1887. The Family History Library has marriage records for most counties, from county creation to 1920 or later, and some indexes to the 1950s or later.

The earliest records of divorce were recorded in the supreme court. Later divorce papers are usually kept by the clerk of the circuit, chancery, or county court. The Family History Library has few divorce records for Michigan. Many divorce and other vital records have been abstracted and published in genealogical periodicals.

FOR FURTHER READING

For more detailed information on records and research in Michigan see:

Anderson, Alloa Caviness. *Genealogy in Michigan: What, When, Where,* 2nd ed. Ann Arbor, Mich.: A. Anderson, P. Bender, 1978. (FHL book 977.4 A1 no. 59; film 1036751 item 6; computer number 20560.)

Callard, Carole, ed. *Sourcebook of Michigan Census, County Histories, and Vital Records.* Lansing, Mich.: Library of Michigan, 1986. (FHL book 977.4 A3sm; fiche 6101261; computer number 476755.) County-by-county bibliography of biographies, local histories, and abstracts or indexes to census, church, probate, cemetery, and vital records.

McGinnis, Carol. Michigan Genealogy: Sources and Resources. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1987. (FHL book 977.4 A3m; computer number 444126.)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

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USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.

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Second edition May 1997. English approval: 5/97

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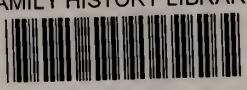
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